

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Assessment

1. What are Educational Goals?

Educational goals outline the academic expectations for your students. They include both yearly growth and proficiency targets for multiple assessments as well as academy specific goals. These goals may differ from the expectations outlined by your Educational Service Provider. (If you utilize an ESP)

2. What assessments/tests are required each year?

There are both state mandated and authorizer mandated testing requirements. The table below outlines these requirements by assessment, subject, grade required, timeline of administration, as well as which entity makes the requirement.

Assessment	Subjects	Grades	Timeline	Required by
M-STEP	English Language Arts, Math	3 rd -7 th	Spring	State
	Social Studies	5 th , 8 th , 11 th		
	Science	5 th , 8 th , 11 th		
NWEA	Reading, Math	2 nd -8 th	Fall, Winter, Spring	Authorizer
PSAT *PSAT/NMSQT given in Fall	EBRW, Math	8 th , 9 th , 10 th	Spring	State and Authorizer
SAT	EBRW, Math	11 th , some qualifying 12 th	Spring	State and Authorizer
Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark	ELA, Math	K-2 nd	Fall, Winter, Spring	State

3. Are the NWEA testing windows the same each year?

No, as an authorizer we set testing windows each year for fall, winter, and spring. Testing windows tend to be similar each year, with proper spacing to ensure we accurately measure and capture growth, however, fluctuate a bit depending on the calendar year.

4. What are the testing windows for 2020-21?

IMPORTANT: Please note that the NWEA testing requirement for fall 2020 has been waived due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fall: September 14-October 23

Winter: January 18-February 26

Spring: April 26-June 4

5. Is administration of the NWEA assessment required for winter?

Yes unless waived by LSSU CSO. Your Academy must provide a valid argument against winter testing. Please make your request to Julie Hopper, Academic Assessment Specialist, at jhopper@lssu.edu.

6. How does LSSU evaluate academy performance?

Annually, LSSU CSO provides an academic report that outlines the degree to which the academy met their Educational Goals. The Academic Assessment Specialist presents this information to Academy leadership as well as the Academy Board.

Additionally, LSSU CSO publishes an annual Portfolio Report that outlines the degree to which all academies chartered by LSSU met their Educational Goals. Data is rolled up and presented as median student performance.